

LIII.—*Notices of recent Ornithological Publications.*

[Continued from p. 456.]

81. *Albarda's 'Aves Neerlandicæ.'*

[*Aves Neerlandicæ*. Naamlijst van Nederlandsche Vogels, door Mr. Herman Albarda. Leeuwarden, 1897. 1 vol. 8vo. 150 pp.]

This is a newly-compiled list of the birds of Holland, prepared something after the fashion of our "B. O. U." List of British Birds. The scientific and Dutch names of each species are followed by a few references to Nozeman's '*Nederlandsche Vogelen*,' Temminck's '*Manuel*,' Schlegel's '*Vogels van Nederland*,' and some other authorities. Then are added the vernacular names and a short account of the time and mode of occurrence of the bird in Holland. The Rules of Nomenclature of the International Congress of Zoology (Paris, 1895) are strictly followed, so that many unusual changes are adopted. This is a useful list for students of the European ornith.

82. *Andersen on the Birds of the Faeroes.*

[*Meddelelser om Faeröernes Fugle med særligt Hensyn til Nolsö*. Efter skriftlige Oplysninger fra P. F. Petersen, Nolsö. Ved Knud Andersen. Vidensk. Meddel. naturh. Foren. i Kbhvn. 1898, p. 315.]

Mr. Andersen bases his paper principally on observations and specimens transmitted to him by Mr. P. F. Petersen of Nolsö. The chief notes are arranged systematically and relate to 117 species, of which, however, only 11 are permanent residents in the Faeroes. This is an interesting paper to students of British birds, and would be well worthy of translation, or at any rate of abstraction in English.

83. *Barboza du Bocage on the Birds of the Cape Verde Islands.*

[*Aves do Archipelago de Cabo Verde*. Por J. V. Barboza du Bocage. *Jorn. Sci. Mathem., Phys. e Nat.* Lisboa, 2<sup>a</sup> ser. v. p. 140.]

Prof. Barboza du Bocage commences his article with a useful account of previous publications on the birds of the Cape Verde Islands, and then gives a list of them, mainly

based on Mr. Boyd Alexander's papers in this Journal, making the total number of species 48. There appear to be no specimens of Cape Verde birds in the National Museum of Lisbon.

84. *De Graf on the Aquatic Warbler in Holland.*

[*Acrocephalus aquaticus* broedende in Nederland, v. H. W. De Graf. Tijdschr. d. Nederl. Dierk. Vereen. (2) p. 303 (1898).]

The writer records the occurrence of three specimens of the Aquatic Warbler (*Acrocephalus aquaticus*) in North Holland in 1887 and 1889, two of which are now exhibited in the mounted collection of the birds of Holland belonging to the Zoological Society, "Natura Artis Magistra," of Amsterdam. It has hitherto been considered as doubtful whether this Warbler had ever been really met with in the Netherlands. Moreover Heer De Graf believes that he saw a young bird of this species in the reed-beds of the "Schwanenwater" in June 1892, and considers that it must have been bred there; consequently this species may perhaps be added to the list of birds which breed in the Netherlands.

85–91. *Finn's Notes on Birds in India.*

[85. Note on various Species of Grebes, with especial reference to the power of Walking and Digestion possessed by these Birds. By F. Finn, B.A., F.Z.S. J. A. S. B. lxxi. pt. ii. p. 725.

86. Note on the Seasonal Change of Plumage in the Males of the Purple Honeysucker (*Arachnechthra asiatica*) and of an analogous American Bird (*Cæreba cyanea*). J. A. S. B. lxxvii. pt. ii. p. 64.

87. Contributions to the Theory of Warning Colours and Mimicry.—No. IV. Experiments with various Birds: Summary and Conclusions. J. A. S. B. lxxvii. pt. ii. p. 613.

88. Exhibition of a living Specimen of the Indian Goosander (*Meryanser comatus*) and Notes on its Walking Powers. Proc. A. S. B. 1898, p. 103.

89. On certain imperfectly-known Points in the Habits and Economy of Birds.—No. I. On the Position of the Feet of the "Picarian" Birds and Parrots in Flight. Proc. A. S. B. March 1898.

90. Ditto.—No. II. On the use of the Feet for Prehension by certain Passerine Birds, especially Babblers. Proc. A. S. B. May 1898.

91. On a third Invasion of India by Baer's Pochard (*Nyroca baeri*). Proc. A. S. B. 1898, p. 134.]

The gist of Mr. Finn's observations set forth in the first of these papers is that Grebes stand erect and walk more or less freely, though with a blundering gait when hurried. In the second paper the author maintains, in agreement with Jerdon and Capt. Shelley, that the male Purple Honey-sucker moults into a plumage resembling that of the female. The third paper contains the result of experiments with insects addicted to mimicry and birds which are more or less insectivorous. Some of the remarks strike us as being extremely trite, especially the warning, "*Remember that the best and often the only way to determine an animal's tastes is to offer it a choice.*" In No. 88 it is stated that the Indian Goosander walks "in the ordinary manner of Ducks." In No. 89 Mr. Finn states that, so far as his observations go, the Parrots, Hornbills, Kingfishers, and Rollers carry their feet stretched out backwards when in flight, while a drawn-up or forward position characterizes some, at least, of the Hoopoes, Woodpeckers, and Barbets. In No. 90 it is remarked that the Babblers resemble the Shrikes in their habit of feeding from the foot, which is not the case with the Warblers or the Thrushes; at the same time too much stress must not be laid upon this, as some Parrots use the foot like a hand, whereas others do not. From the last contribution we learn that Baer's Duck, the Eastern representative of our White-eyed Duck, has again visited India in some numbers.

92. *Finsch on the Crex sandwichensis of Schlegel.*

[On the so-called "Sandwich Rail" in the Leyden Museum. By O. Finsch. Notes Leyden Mus. xx. p. 77.]

Schlegel's *Crex sandwichensis*, only known from the specimen in the Leyden Museum, is, according to Dr. Finsch, "most certainly not the same as *Rallus sandwichensis* or *R. obscurus* of Gmelin," as supposed by Hartlaub and Sharpe. It is therefore renamed *Pennula wilsoni*, after Mr. Scott B. Wilson. The exact locality inhabited is unknown.

93. *Finsch on the Psophiæ in the Leyden Museum.*

[On *Psophia viridis* and *Ps. obscura*. By Dr. O. Finsch. Notes Leyden Mus. xx. p. 81.]

Dr. Finsch states that the Trumpeters in the Leyden Museum formerly labelled *Psophia viridis* are really *P. obscura* (see above, p. 523), and that this has misled Dr. Sharpe into uniting these two different species. A list is added of all the specimens of the genus at Leyden.

94. *Finsch on Muscicapula westermanni Sharpe.*

[On the Identity of *Muscicapula westermanni* Sharpe and *M. melanoleuca* Hodgs. By O. Finsch. Notes Leyden Mus. xx. p. 93.]

Dr. Finsch shows that *Muscicapula westermanni* Sharpe, from Perak (Wray), is a female of *M. maculata* of the B. M. Catalogue, and that the best name to adopt for this widely-spread species is *M. melanoleuca* of Hodgson. The Leyden Museum contains a good set of 14 examples of this bird from various localities—N. India, Java, Timor, Celebes, and Luzon. *Muscicapula melanoleuca* appears to be a mountain-bird, breeding at high altitudes.

95. *Goeldi's Naturalist's Journey to Southern Guiana.*

[Eine Naturforscher Fahrt nach dem Littoral des südlichen Guyana zwischen Oyapock und Amazonenstrom. Von Dr. Emil A. Goeldi. Jahresb. St. Gall. naturw. Gesellsch. 1896-97.]

This is a general narrative of the expedition to Southern Guiana made by Dr. Goeldi and his companions in 1895, of which, as regards the birds observed and collected, Dr. Goeldi has already written an account in 'The Ibis' (1897, p. 149). A photographic portrait is given of Dr. Goeldi's conservator, Max Tanner, whose sad death from fever, contracted at Amapa during this expedition, has already been mentioned.

96. *Hartert on Birds from Flores.*

[On the Birds collected by Mr. Everett in South Flores. Part II. By Ernst Hartert. Novitates Zool. v. p. 42.]

This is the second part (see Ibis, 1897, p. 614) of

Mr. Hartert's account of the collection made by the late Mr. Everett in Flores. Fifty species are enumerated and discussed, among which are two new subspecies—*Limnaëtus limnaëtus floris* and *Hypotenidia brachypus exsul*. *Psittoteles weberi* of Büttikofer, united to *P. euteles* by Dr. Mivart in his recent Monograph of the Lories, is revived, as "being distinguishable at a glance."

97. *Hartert on Birds from the Marianne Islands.*

[On the Birds of the Marianne Islands. By Ernst Hartert. *Novitates Zool.* v. p. 51.]

Mr. Hartert describes a collection of birds received at Tring from the islands of Guam and Saipan of the Marianne group, and bases his remarks mainly on M. Oustalet's recent article on the same subject. Forty-one species are dealt with, of which *Rhipidura saipanensis* and *Gygis alba kittlützi* are described as new. Seven species are added to M. Oustalet's list, and the whole number of birds of the Marianne avifauna is raised to 56.

98. *Hartert on Birds from Nyasaland.*

[List of an Ornithological Collection made by Dr. Percy Rendall on the Upper Shiré River near Fort Johnston and on the Shores of the Southern Parts of Lake Nyassa. By Ernst Hartert. *Novitates Zool.* v. p. 70.]

The contents of this paper are well explained in its title. Dr. Rendall's collection contains examples of 108 species, most of which have been also recorded by Capt. Shelley in his articles on the birds of Nyasaland. *Lagonosticta senegala rendalli* is a new subspecies. Some useful field-notes by the collector are given, particularly as regards nests and eggs.

99. *Hartert on Birds from the Talaut Islands.*

[List of a Collection of Birds from the Island of Lirung or Salibabu, the largest of the Talaut Group. By Ernst Hartert. *Novitates Zool.* v. p. 88.]

The author gives a list of a collection made on the island

of Lirung or Salibabu, one of the Talaut group, by Mr. John Waterstradt, and transmitted to the Tring Museum. Forty species are enumerated, of which seven are additional to the avifauna of these islands as described by Messrs. Meyer and Wigglesworth (J. f. O. 1894, p. 237, and Abh. Mus. Dresden, 1894-95, no. 9). One new subspecies (*Prioniturus platurus talautensis*) is characterized.

100. *Hartert on Birds from Timor.*

[List of Birds collected in Timor by Mr. Alfred Everett. By Ernst Hartert. *Novitates Zool.* v. p. 111.]

The late Mr. Everett visited Timor in July 1897, and stayed till September; but he was not able to explore the mountains of the interior, and his collection was formed within a radius of 12 miles from Atapapu, one of the Dutch settlements, where the steamer calls once a month. Atapapu lies at the mouth of a deep gorge in the coast-hills, a little to the west of the middle of the island. The heat here, at the middle of the dry season, "was terrible," and all the party were more or less sick.

Mr. Hartert refers Everett's "magnificent collection," which makes a most valuable addition to the series at Tring, to 81 species, of which *Cettia everetti* and *Acanthopneuste floris* are characterized as new. Two other subspecies (*Trichoglossus hamatodus fortis*, from Sumba, and *Cacatua parvula occidentalis*, from Lombok and Flores, are designated in the notes. No *Pitta* was met with, although diligently sought after.

101. *Hartert on the Birds of the Sula Islands.*

[List of a Collection of Birds made in the Sula Islands by William Doherty. By Ernst Hartert. *Novitates Zool.* v. p. 125.]

The collection made by Mr. Doherty, in October and November 1897, on the islands of Sula-Mangoli and Sula-Besi is described in this paper. It contains examples of all the birds which are restricted to the Sula group and of almost all others known to be found there, besides certain

additions. The specimens are referred to 55 species, among which two are described as new (*Pisorhina sulaensis* and *Rhinomyias colonus*), besides two subspecies (*Pelargopsis melanorhyncha eutreptorhyncha* and *Hypothymis puella blasii*). *Ptilinopus chrysorrhous pelingensis*, from Peling and Mangai Islands, is also separated as a new subspecies. *Eudynamis fascialis* Wallace, not recognized in the B. M. Catalogue (vol. xix.), is revived. Mr. Doherty obtained three examples of the rare Sturnine bird *Charitornis albertinæ*, in Sula-Mangoli.

### 102. Harting on Hawks.

[Hints on the Management of Hawks. Second Edition; to which is added Practical Falconry, Chapters Historical and Descriptive. By J. E. Harting. Pp. i-viii, 1-268. 8vo. London: Horace Cox, 1898.]

So many additions have been made to the original letter-press of this well-known little work, that the so-called second edition is practically new. The management of Hawks and the practice of falconry lie beyond the province of ornithologists in the strictest sense, but, even from a limited point of view, there is much in this work that appeals to the lover of bird-life. The remarks on the moulting of Falcons are excellent; the chapters on the Goshawk, the Sparrowhawk, and the Merlin contain information of great interest, and there is much bird-lore in connexion with what may be called eccentricities in hawking. Many of us are aware of the taste of James I. for flying Jer-Falcons at the Kite, and even about this Mr. Harting has something new to say; but few persons know that Ospreys were also kept by that monarch. A chapter is devoted to trained Eagles, and Mr. Harting gives his not very successful experiences in France on Bonelli's Eagle. Many beautiful illustrations by Mr. G. E. Lodge add to the value of the volume, and there is also a photogravure of the picture by Mr. Joseph Wolf of a Greenland and an Iceland Falcon attacking a Kite, which we recollect in the International Exhibition of 1862.

103. *Lucas on the Tongues of Birds.*

[The Tongues of Birds. By Frederick A. Lucas. Rep. U.S. Nat. Mus. 1895, p. 1001 (1897).]

This is an excellent essay on a much-neglected subject, and will, we hope, excite some of our younger students to pay attention to a very important feature in the structure of birds. As Mr. Lucas points out, similar habits and food in widely different forms of birds may result in producing similar tongues. But there is also little doubt that the investigation of the tongue may be very instructive in cases of uncertain affinities, though not absolutely to be depended upon for purposes of classification, unless supported by other characters.

104. *More's Life and Letters.*

[Life and Letters of Alexander Goodman More, F.R.S.E., F.L.S., &c., with Selections from his Zoological and Botanical Writings. Edited by C. B. Moffat, B.A., with a Preface by Frances M. More. Pp. i-xii, 1-642. 8vo. Dublin: Hodges, Figgis, & Co., 1898.]

'The Ibis' for 1895 (p. 410) contained a notice of the career of our lamented colleague, and those who had the privilege of knowing the man will be pleased at the light thrown upon his estimable character by the correspondence contained in this volume. That More was an enthusiast is abundantly shown by his letters, but what cannot so clearly be indicated is the power he possessed of communicating his fervour. Though not an Irishman, his name will always be associated with Ireland, to which he paid his first visit in 1850, when he shot a Marsh-Harrier near Kilmacduagh; while, in the following year, he not only saw Eagles near Kylemore, but found the Hen-Harrier "common on all the hills, and often seen quartering the ground." We believe he was the first to observe the Arctic Tern nesting by a freshwater lough, and it seems that he was the identifier of the Bartram's Sandpiper killed in Nottinghamshire—the first British specimen on record. There is much correspondence with Sir Edward and Professor Newton, and the



descriptions of More's varied experiences in Connemara are very pleasant reading. Though the pursuit of the great Grey Seal and the death of the gigantic cuttlefish do not come within our province, an allusion to them may be pardoned. It is true that the volume is somewhat bulky, and we think that some of the correspondence might have been omitted or compressed. In an Appendix all More's scientific contributions are given; among them his principal work, on 'The Distribution of Birds in Great Britain during the Nesting-Season,' and also his two Lists of Irish Birds.

105. *Pražák on a new Trochalopteron.*

[Ueber einen neuen Vogel vom oberen Yang-tse kiang und Tungting See. Von Dr. J. P. Pražák. Monatsb. Deuts. Ver. Schutze Vogelw. xxii. p. 327.]

*Trochalopteron hennickei* is described as a new species, allied to *T. sukatschewii* of Berezowski and Bianchi and *T. cinereiceps* of Styan, and based on three specimens obtained by a correspondent in the summer of 1896, on the Tung-ting Lake, in the upper valley of the Yang-tse.

106. *Rothschild on the Paradise-birds.*

[Notes on *Paradiseidæ*. By the Hon. Walter Rothschild. Novitates Zool. v. p. 84.]

These notes refer to various points in the arrangement and nomenclature of the *Paradiseidæ*, which will, no doubt, be embodied in the synopsis of the group being prepared for 'Das Thierreich.' We are very glad to observe that Mr. Rothschild is inclined to restrict the excessive number of genera admitted in the *Paradiseidæ* by Dr. Sharpe. Genera do not exist in nature, and are merely conveniences for reference; but they become excessively inconvenient when too numerous. We are not, however, able to approve in a similar way of some of Mr. Rothschild's proposed changes of generic and scientific names. Who will ever recognize a Paradise-bird under the name *Falcinellus striatus*, or suspect that it conceals our old friend *Epimachus speciosus*?

## 107. Seebohm's 'Monograph of the Thrushes.'

[A Monograph of the Turdidæ, or Family of Thrushes. By the late Henry Seebohm. Edited and completed (after the Author's death) by R. Bowdler Sharpe, LL.D., F.L.S., &c. Part III. Imperial 4to. London: Henry Sotheran & Co., 1898.]

The third number of this excellent and well-illustrated monograph finishes the series of *Geocichlæ* and begins the typical *Turdi*. The species treated of, and nearly all figured, are:—*Geocichla andromeda*, *G. marginata*, *G. nævia*, *G. wardi*, *G. schistacea*, *G. pinicola*, *G. sibirica*, *G. davisoni*, *G. litsisirupa*, *G. semiensis*, *G. terrestris*, *Turdus marañouicus*, *T. bewsheri*, and *T. olivaceifuscus*. Of these the rarest and most abnormal is *G. terrestris* of the Bonin Islands, of which only four specimens are known, all in Continental Museums.

## 108. Shufeldt on Taxidermy at Leyden.

[Taxidermical Methods in the Leyden Museum, Holland. By R. W. Shufeldt. Rep. U.S. Nat. Mus. 1895, p. 1031 (1897).]

Dr. Shufeldt sings the praises of the methods used in the Leyden Museum by Mr. H. H. ter Meer and his son in mounting the mammals and birds exhibited in the galleries of that celebrated institution, and gives photographs of some of the specimens. The chief point urged seems to be that the "prepared model of the body should be an exact reproduction of the original, before the skin is drawn over it, so as to obviate the necessity of subsequently introducing additional fillings."

## 109. Vorderman on the Birds of Celebes.

[Celebes-Vogels. Door A. G. Vorderman. Natuurk. Tijds. Nederl. Indië, Deel lviii. p. 1 (1898).]

The author gives a list, with references and remarks, of a collection of 323 specimens of birds, representing 118 species, made by himself and assistants in various parts of Celebes during a recent official visit to Macassar and the residency of Menado. In the latter district ten localities were visited. The species are all previously known as found in Celebes.